



California

Former Mather AFB

Facility and Location

Former Mather Air Force Base (AFB) is located in the unincorporated portion of Sacramento County, 12 miles southeast of downtown Sacramento. The 5,716 acre parcel included an 11,300 foot runway, a parallel 6,100 foot runway, nine aircraft hangars, office and industrial structures, 18 dormitory buildings, 1,282 units of single family housing. The base was closed in 1993. A portion of Former Mather AFB now lies within the city of Rancho Cordova, which was incorporated in 2003.

Media Sampled and Findings

Groundwater — In 2009, two samples reported no detection. In 2008, three of eight samples detected perchlorate from 0.84 to 1.4 ppb. In 2007, four of eight samples detected perchlorate from 0.54 to 0.77 ppb. Prior to 2007, the Air Force undertook sampling of selected monitoring wells, extraction wells, and treatment system effluent to determine whether the known perchlorate plume from off base was impacting any of the Air Force groundwater cleanup systems. Concentrations were below 2 ppb and unrelated to the known perchlorate plume.

Appropriate Actions

The perchlorate found at Former Mather AFB originates from off-site sources upgradient to the former base. Aerojet and Boeing have been recognized as parties responsible for cleanup. These parties have installed groundwater monitoring wells, including some on Former Mather AFB, to characterize the perchlorate plume and are operating several extraction wells to extract and treat groundwater contaminated by perchlorate. The Air Force continues to make existing monitoring wells available to the responsible parties for sampling to assist with perchlorate remediation.